



TUFOIC NEWSLETER

October 2004 Edition 96

YEAR TO DATE 2004.

The aim of any UFO group is to find an explanation for the UFO phenomena, or at least contribute to the accumulation of data. At present TUFOIC could almost present a case for the non-existence of the phenomena in Tasmania. Calls to the Centre are well down on recent years whilst we have only one unexplained sighting as at October 2004. In fact if we go back over the last twelve months to September 2003 there have been three UFO sightings, this would be the lowest number recorded in a twelve month time span.

However, all is not lost as the UFO mystery is still alive and well in other parts of the world. South America continues to be a source of for reports, also Canada has noted a marked upswing in cases during 2004. Also let's not forget earlier in the year the Mexican Air Force encounters with objects recorded on infra-red instruments. The Mexican

Military reported that following investigation they could provide no explanation for the incident. It reminds us of the Belgian Air Force encounter from the early nineties. Like their Mexican counterparts they could not explain radar recordings and visual sightings from their aircraft of mystery lights. They also co-operated with local UFO groups but it was all to no avail as the puzzling events failed to arouse the curiosity of the scientific world. We hope the same fate does not await the Mexican sightings. There has been a steady accumulation of top class data over the past 50 years and it is almost a mystery that this information can be ignored?

Locally frustration of another kind is the amount of time spent solving the endless orange light reports. This year Franklin in the Huon Valley and Campbell Town have been the hosts to a number of winter time cases. These cases usually have a

number of common features that point to the explanation as being 'garbage bag balloons'. The winds are light and conditions fine. Descriptions often refer to flickering light or flame like; sometimes a light will fall towards the ground below. The lights may just disappear in mid-sky or fade into the distance. Height is difficult to tell at night so that the lights look to be up near the clouds. Movements by a group of lights look to be intelligently controlled. In fact a group of lights may be spatially well apart but the witness naturally sees the lights as being close together. The orange light reports have been coming into UFO groups for years, mainly from city and suburban areas. Maybe it is time to exclude them from our lists of unexplained reports.

Whilst the Centre aims to collect UFO reports we are also aware that the Centre provides a service to the public. Most callers just want an explanation for the sighting they have witnessed; only a minority call to initially report a UFO.

Items maybe quoted from this Newsletter but TUFOIC must be credited

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VALE JEANETTE BIGWOOD

It is with a deal of sadness that the Centre notes the passing of Jeanette Bigwood. Jeanette's brother Robert was the driving force behind the foundation of TUFOIC in 1965. Jeanette was at the Centre's initial meeting. . Then in the following years she was Secretary, Investigator, and President until her retirement from UFOs in 1977.

Many meetings in the early days were held at her residence. Including one famous evening when a report of a UFO landing at Franklin came during the course of the meeting. Following a dash to the sighting location the culprit turned out to be just a heap of burning logs on a nearby hill. Thank you Jeanette for your hard work to establish TUFOIC.

TASMANIAN SIGHTINGS

1990. about 5pm. Black Hills

The two witnesses were in the garden of their Black Hills home, an elevated area with beautiful views out over the Derwent Valley. Mr S was looking at the view to the west and was surprised to see several circles of light seemingly a short distance away and not very high in the clear sky. He pointed out the aerial display to his wife. They both stood and watched the static display in the sky. There were two circles of blue to white light which seemed to have tubes of light spread out around each circle. The light mass was stationary and silent. However, a light beam suddenly appeared from the centre of the light mass and spread down towards the ground below. Mr S felt uneasy at this point feeling the beam had an aura of menace about it. Both he and his wife retreated indoors and did not look outside for sometime. Finally Mr S ventured out but was unable to locate the blue to white light mass anywhere in the sky or for that matter anything to account for what they had seen.

Although not many UFO cases occurred in 1990 it is interesting to note one report came from nearby Magra in February.

2004. January 23. 2.30am

Near Forth.

The witness lives on a rural property inland from Forth on the North West Coast.

The witness says about 2.30am he went out onto the back porch of his house to have a look at the stars in the clear night sky. He noticed that the ducks from a nearby pond had burst into life with loud quacks and squawks. This noise is not uncommon but almost at once the witnesses noticed there was something through the trees towards the south. He saw a large bright, eye-shaped object, slowly travelling westwards at a crawling speed, as if it was 'scanning' the countryside. He estimated it was about 100 m off the ground and about 300 m distant. It was roughly the size of a half-moon and had a very bright white colour. Its outline shimmered, as it moved silently over the paddock. The object moved in a straight line passing behind some trees, all the while the witness felt uneasy as if being watched. After 15 to 30 seconds viewing the witness retreated indoors. He did not look out again that night so is not aware what became of the UFO. No other reports were received.

2004. 3rd January 2pm.

**Lyell Highway between
Franklin/Alma Rivers.**

TUFOIC was initially advised of the Beveridge photograph by UFOR (NSW) with an email on January 18th. UFOR (NSW) via Steve Walters initially felt that the picture was genuine, although they were fully aware that software was available to falsify digital photos. However, the witness saw nothing at the time of the photograph; one would think if it was a false picture the witness would also report a visual sighting.

The camera used was a C5 Olympus using a standard lens setting. It was set at "my mode 2". Setting -SQ2- 1024x768

resolutions on high mode. No filters. Auto program settings.

The witness says my wife and I were travelling around Tasmania.

On Saturday January 3rd about 2pm they were heading west on the Lyell Highway when they stopped to take a panoramic view of the mountains from SW to NW. Five photographs were taken all within about a minute, nothing was noticed in the sky as the pictures were taken. The witnesses continued on their trip. Some days later it was noticed that there was a UFO like image on the 5th picture. On returning

home the witness checked the internet for some group to whom he could refer his photograph. The first group he said did not respond so he contacted UFOR (NSW). Australian UFO Researcher, Barry Taylor analysed the Beveridge pictures, also the very similar Whittlesea picture taken on January 15th. Taylor felt from the image enhancement that a commercial aircraft could be the source of the unexplained image. He estimated the distance to the object as 5-6 k with an altitude of 8-12000 ft.

The Centre has made enquires regarding air traffic movements in the area. No follow up is possible on air traffic records. General advice was received re possible aircraft that frequent the photograph area.

Light aircraft movements occur for sightseeing over the World Heritage scenery, even the odd private Lear jet has been know to fly over the mountainous area.

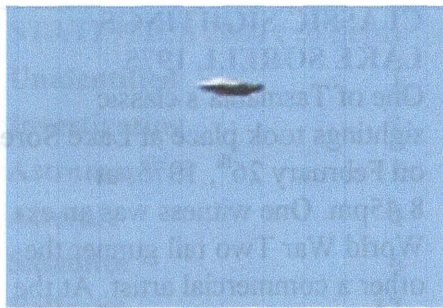
The location is well away from the normal commercial flight routes, although high altitude overflights (30-35000 ft) can occur. Aircraft pass over from New Zealand to West Australia (usually on Friday evening), whilst military flights do move over the location at times.

The photograph does not appear

consistent with an aircraft at high altitude.

Maybe of some interest is the similarity between the Beveridge photograph and the Whittlesea photograph. Taylor has also analysed this case but is unable to uncover an explanation. It must be said that the chance of spotting an aircraft from Whittlesea would be far greater than on the Lyell Highway.

TUFOIC has not recorded the case as a UFO report, nothing was seen. However, the incident still remains one of interest.



Blow up of Lyell Highway object

Original photograph printed below.



CLASSIC SIGHTINGS LAKE SORELL 1975

One of Tasmania's classic sightings took place at Lake Sorell on February 26th, 1975, at 8.45pm. One witness was an ex-World War Two tail gunner the other a commercial artist. At the time of the sighting they were camped on the western shore of the lake for a fishing weekend.

Initially three lights were noticed to the north-east, not a great deal of interest was taken as they were assumed to be aircraft lights. Soon after they were seen again through broken cloud and looked to be approaching the lake. Two large and one smaller light could be seen, all but one of the lights disappeared into cloud but the third approached rapidly.

One moment the light was away in the distance the next thing it was just a kilometre away and about 150 m above the lake. The witnesses said the object looked to be 60-70 m across, it had a bright orange dome with a ring of lights around its base. There was a bright light below from which a huge beam of light shone down onto the lake below. The shaft of light was well defined and was half the diameter of the UFO itself.

The light was the brilliance of a welding torch and hard to look at.

The light lit a wide area as it

swung back and forth over Robinsons Swamp. It seemed liked a careful search and the witnesses felt that the light was intelligently controlled. The witnesses had a large tent set up at the lakeside together with a cover for their car. The car's radio was on at the time of the sighting prior to the 9pm news. When the UFO was at its closest the car radio emitted an 'intense static noise'. The witnesses tried to tune in on other radio stations but the static was right across the radio bands.

After its inspection the UFO put out its beam leaving a blue-white phosphorescence hanging 10 m above the surface of the lake. Once the light was out the UFO could be clearly seen. The UFO then departed in a flash-'it was like watching a tracer bullet going away from you'. One of the other lights was seen then noticed to the north and accompanied the main UFO out of sight to the north-east. The time was now 9.30pm although it did not seem the object had been there some 30 minutes. The next day the witnesses met some other fishermen from Silver Plains some distance to the south of their camp. They said that their tent had suddenly been lit up like day.

CLASSIC CONTINUED.

They had also seen a bright light up the lake. The witnesses returned home and made sketches of the object, shortly after they saw an article on the Centre and then reported the details of the sighting.

Despite articles in the press the Centre was unable to locate any further witness to this startling event.

Another report though came on March 14th at 9.30pm. The witness, his family and friends were camped on the eastern side of Lake Sorell.

They were just about to have a snack when the children pointed out an object rising slowly from behind some trees about 300 m away. The object once it was above the trees rose rapidly and shot up into the south-western sky, diminishing to a star sized light in a matter of five seconds.

The object was football shaped and estimated by the witness to be some 12 m across. It was a bright yellow beneath with a light coloured yellow on the top side.

As it moved away the colours became lighter.

No check was possible in the rough bush for any landing traces.

STATISTICS 2004 (to Sept)

Unidentified	1
Investigating	1
Astronomical	11
Aircraft	4
Satellites	6
Balloons	12
Others	3
Photo Only	2
Total Reports	40

Cattle farmer diversifies and finds her profits are out of this world

By Charles Laurence in San Luis Valley, Colorado

Judy Messoline was a cattle farmer staring into the abyss of bankruptcy when the sky above her suggested a way to financial salvation. Aware that the San Luis Valley in southern Colorado, where she farmed, was believed by many to be the favourite earthly landing-strip for aliens, Mrs Messoline converted her barn into a UFO watchtower. An average of 75 people a day come to the farm. Mrs Messoline charges no admission but makes a profit from the sale of UFO merchandise at the farm shop.

Credit Telegraph News 05/09/04

TUFOIC **PUBLICATIONS**

• **TASMANIAN U.F.O. SIGHTINGS CATALOGUE TASCAT 2003**

.....\$3.00

A register of over 500
Tasmanian UFO Cases.

• **TASMANIAN UFO LANDINGS CATALOGUE - Fourth Edition (2000)**

.....\$3.00

A compilation of Tasmanian
UFOs seen on or near Ground
level.

• **CRESSY DOCUMENT**

.....\$3.00

The small Town of Cressy was
the scene of one of the states
most significant UFO Sightings.

• **MAATSUYKER ISLAND DOCUMENT**

.....\$3.00

The lonely Lighthouse island,
off the southern tip of Tasmania,
Has been the scene of many
UFO reports.

• **NORTH-EAST TASMANIA - 1974 DOCUMENT**

.....\$3.00

The largest Tasmanian UFO
flap ever, occurred in the North-
East of the state in 1974.

• **UFO TASMANIA**

Magazines:

The TUFOIC Annual Report
Magazine. Single

editions are available at \$1.00

• **MYSTERIOUS MELODALE**

.....\$3.00

Strange paranormal events over a
period of years, a baffling series of
events recorded by the Centre.

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